

Site Search Summary
(Woodstock NW)

Section 16-50j-74(j) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies requires the submission of a statement that describes “the narrowing process by which other possible sites were considered and eliminated.” In accordance with this requirement, descriptions of the general site search process, the identification of the applicable search area and the alternative locations considered for development of the proposed telecommunications facility in the northwest portion of Woodstock (“Woodstock NW Facility”) are provided below.

Site Search Process

To initiate its site selection process in an area where a coverage or capacity problem has been identified, Cellco first establishes a “site search ring” or “site search area.” In any search ring or area, Cellco seeks to avoid the unnecessary proliferation of towers and to reduce the potential adverse environmental effects of the cell site, while at the same time maximizing the quality of service provided from a particular facility. These objectives are achieved by initially locating existing towers and other sufficiently tall structures within and near the site search area. If any are found, they are evaluated to determine whether they are capable of supporting Cellco's telecommunications equipment at a location and elevation that satisfies its technical requirements.

There are four (4) existing telecommunications towers within approximately four (4) miles of the Woodstock NW search area. None of these existing facilities, listed below and identified on the coverage plots included in Attachment 7 of this Application, can provide the coverage and/or capacity relief needed in the identified problem areas, along Routes 197, 198 and 171 as well as local roads in the northwest portion of Woodstock.

<u>OWNER</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
George Davis Tower*	180' S/S Lattice	1825 Route 198 Woodstock, CT
TeleMedia Charter Communications	80' Guyed-Lattice	Perrin Road Woodstock, CT
MCF Communications**	190' Monopole	215 Coatney Hill Road Woodstock, CT
Wayne Kemp***	168' S/S Lattice	1050 Buckley Highway Union, CT

*The George Davis tower is located off Route 198 north of the proposed tower site. Cellco intends to share this existing site. This site will be known as Cellco's Woodstock North facility.

**Cellco's Coatney Hill facility was recently approved by the Council in EM-VER-169-070831.

***At its Union West cell site, Cellco antennas are located at the 150' level on this existing 168' self-supporting lattice tower.

If existing towers or structures are not available or technically feasible, other locations are investigated where the construction of a new tower is required to provide adequate elevation to satisfy Cellco's requirements. The list of available locations may be further reduced if, after preliminary negotiations, the property owners withdraw a site from further consideration. From among the remaining locations, the proposed sites are selected by eliminating those that have greater potential for adverse environmental effects and fewer benefits to the public (i.e., those requiring taller towers, possibly with lights; those with substantial adverse impacts on densely populated residential areas; and those with limited ability to share space with other public or private telecommunications entities). It should be noted that in any given site search, the weight afforded to factors considered in the selection process will vary depending upon the availability and nature of sites within the search area.

Identification of the Woodstock NW Search Area

The purpose of the proposed Woodstock NW Facility is to provide reliable cellular and PCS coverage to significant existing coverage gaps that have been identified along Routes 198, 197 and 171, as well as local roads in the northwest portion of Woodstock. The proposed Woodstock NW Facility will also provide some limited capacity relief in Woodstock by off-loading calls from Cellco's existing and proposed adjacent cell sites, Woodstock, Coatney Hill and Woodstock North. The coverage gaps referenced above were identified using best server propagation modeling tools.

The descriptions of the individual sites investigated, which are set forth below, include sites both inside and outside the Woodstock NW search area that were analyzed and found to be technically unworkable or otherwise unavailable. This is due either to the topography in the area or the overall distance from the investigated site to the search area.

Sites Investigated in the Woodstock NW Area

In addition to the existing communications facilities listed above, Cellco identified and investigated several sites and an existing structure in Woodstock. These sites are described below.

Sites Investigated

1. Walsh Property-Route 198 – Cellco investigated and ultimately signed a lease for the use of a portion of this 53.6-acre parcel. The proposed site maintains a ground elevation of approximately 840 feet AMSL. This location satisfies Cellco's primary coverage objective for its Woodstock NW search area.
2. 71 Sherman Road – Cellco investigated a site located north and west of the proposed site, off Sherman Road. A site at this location could not satisfy Cellco's coverage objectives along Route 197, one of the three primary target areas of the Woodstock NW cell site.
3. Corner of Routes 197 and 198 – This is an approximately 1.2-acre parcel located at the southeasterly corner of the intersection of Routes 197 and 198. Topography in the area, particularly the hilltop on which the

proposed tower is located prohibits Cellco from satisfying its coverage objectives along Routes 197 and 198 from this location.

4. Perrin Road Property – This site is located off Perrin Road more than 2½ miles southeast of the proposed tower location. This site is located too far south and cannot satisfy Cellco’s objectives in northwest Woodstock.